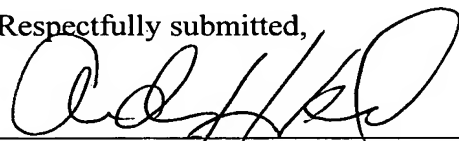


*REMARKS*

The Office Action dated July 15, 2003 has been carefully considered. In the Office Action, the Patent Examiner allowed claims 1-45 and rejected claims 46-51 over the prior art. By way of this amendment, Applicant has canceled the rejected claims such that only allowed claims 1-45 remain in the present patent application. Therefore, it is believed all prior art issues are moot. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the issuance of a Notice of Allowance in the present patent application.

The application is considered in good and proper form for allowance, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: September 22, 2003